

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I declare that:

- My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.
- I believe I am the original, first and sole/joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on an application for patent entitled: METHOD OF PRODUCING METHANE GAS

the specification of which:

- a. ☐ is attached hereto; or
- b. ☒ was filed on 21 April 2005 as U.S. Patent Application Number _____ (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. PCT/JP2003/013397 filed 20 October 2003 and as amended on 4 October 2004 (if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

Foreign application(s), if any, claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. 119		
Application Number(s)	Country	Filing Date
2002-306993	Japan	22 October 2002
Foreign application(s), if any, filed before the priority application(s)		
Application Number(s)	Country	Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below.

U.S. Application Number	Date of Filing	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. Provisional Application Number	Date of Filing

I hereby appoint:

the attorneys and patent agents associated with Customer Number **52835** to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith.

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm of Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C., or any of its attorneys.

Please direct all correspondence to:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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